

## • Abroad •

**Kindu.** When the UN, last week, decided to drop its idea of arresting the murderers of the thirteen Italian airmen, it could hardly have been for want of witnesses. Pierre Vincent, Congo correspondent of the left-wing, pro-Lumumbist French weekly, *L'Express*, thus describes the episode: "The massacre [of the Italians] was particularly abominable. When the mutinous soldiers, hopped up with drugs, seized them, the Italians pointed to their UN status. 'Dirty Flemish,' the Blacks retorted—the supreme insult in the mouth of a Congolese, who for some reason or other believes the Flemish to be 'sub-Belgians.' Then the Italians were beaten, tortured, thrown in jeeps and brought to the *Place Saïo*, before the post office in the middle of Kindu. It was there that they were killed by a bullet in the neck, before thousands of wildly applauding inhabitants. After this they cut them in little pieces, in the presence of a more and more enthusiastic crowd of Blacks, and a handful of Whites, trembling with fear, who had apparently been forced to watch the spectacle on pain of losing their own lives. A non-Congolese was even invited to take photographs—which he did, pale as a shroud. When the butchery was finished, they distributed the choice bits: the hands were carved up and knuckle bones passed around like good luck charms. Some "Flemish" hands were served whole for a handful of the privileged: among them Colonel Vital Pakassa, leader of the mutineers, and also, according to certain reports, the European who represents the World Health Organization at Kindu." Kindu, incidentally, is the capital of the district of "Maniema," which means "land of the cannibals" in Swahili.

**London.** On Saturday, December 9, there will be a significant test of strength by the "Committee of 100," the more extreme (civil disobedience) wing of the unilateral disarmament movement. The Committee has called for simultaneous sitdowns at eight different missile bases on that day. It has further instructed its followers to refuse, when arrested, to put up bail or pay fines, in order to put a maximum strain on the country's police facilities.

**Algiers.** The economic meaning of an Algeria split from France is being foreshadowed by the statistics of this year's developments under de Gaulle's drive toward *Algérie Algérienne*. Algerian imports as a whole from France are down 17%; and in consumer durables (autos, refrigerators, washing machines, etc.)—the symbols of longer-term confidence—the drop is 50%. Private capital investment in Algeria for 1961 will total less than a half of what had been expected. Algerian bank deposits are down more than 20% from last year, and commercial bank loans are today about a third of the 1960 figure. For decades Algeria has been first in trade with metropolitan France. This year, she has dropped behind West Germany.



*L'Express*  
"Aristotle contemplating the bust of Homer"

**Brussels.** Before taking off on his mission to the UN, Foreign Minister Paul-Henri Spaak told the Belgian Senate a few of the curious facts about the UN's Swedish officials who have been so prominent in the Katanga operation. He noted, for example, that Sture Linner, whom Dag Hammarskjöld appointed UN chief in the Congo, had long been associated with the Swedish firm, Grangesberg A/B. This company, along with Skanska Cement, Iforverken A/B and Boliden, forms a syndicate with the U. S. firm, International African-American Corporation. This syndicate, seeking copper and other mining concessions, has more or less openly pursued a pro-Lumumbist, anti-Tshombe line within the Congo. Boliden's President, Sven Schwarts, has made several recent trips to Katanga under the auspices of UN officials and the Swedish embassy. Spaak omitted from his Senate speech the allegation that European rumor finds juiciest: that Dag Hammarskjöld's brother, Gustav (Bo), is associated not only with Grangesberg A/B but with the U. S. copper corporation, Anaconda Mining Co., and that the Grangesberg syndicate is also closely linked to major U. S. banking interests.

**Oxford.** The Left wing at the University hopes that it may have found the issue, capable of arousing "a mass wave of indignation," for which it has been waiting for some years. An undergraduette of St. Hilda's college has just been expelled after being found in bed with a young man. The University Labor Club is circulating a petition demanding her reinstatement, and there is talk of demonstrations and sitdowns.

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